

What is claimed is:

[Claim 1] A universal system of encoding Chinese characters characterized in placing six optimally selected code elements: “一, | , J , 丶, 乙, 口” respectively onto six numeric keys “1,2,3,4,5,6” on the numeric keypad of PC, Mobile phone, telephone or other digital devices, and encoding Chinese characters by decomposing them into the mentioned code elements on the keypad in the order of handwriting, and then selecting each character's first several and the last code elements, or selecting all its code elements as the character's code for the purpose of input. If a character happens to have elements less than the minimum number set in the system, the code comprises its whole code elements.

[Claim 2] A method as claimed in Claim 1, in which one can also encode each character by selecting its first several and last several code elements as its numerical code, such as: the first three and the last two, or the first four and the last three, or the first five and the last two, etc.

[Claim 3] A method as claimed in Claim 1, in which “日” is regarded as two “口”, and thus it is represented by “66” in the process of encoding and inputting.

[Claim 4] A method as claimed in Claim 1, in which considering character component's derivation and its intuitional meanings, the component “口” in the character “国” is also encoded as 6.

[Claim 5] A method as claimed in Claim 1, in which Chinese characters can be classified into two basic topological patterns: Compound and Singular. The encoding method for compound characters is flexible, one can select various number of code elements of each part of a compound character as its code. For example: selecting the first and the last code elements of the compound

character's first part, and then add the first three and the last code elements of its second part for encoding.

[Claim 6] A method as claimed in Claim 1, which can be also used to encode Chinese words and phrases. The encoding method for words and phrase is to select 2 to 4 code elements of each Chinese character. Words and phrases can be inputted together with single characters, or inputted separately by shifting to a system state for only inputting words and phrases.

[Claim 7] A method as claimed in Claim 1, in which the distribution of the numeric keys can be in the way of a telephone keypad, namely, “1, 2, 3” are distributed on the top row of the keypad; and the numeric keys also can be distributed according to the PC numeric keyboard, namely, “1, 2, 3” are on the bottom row. Changing the corresponding places between “1,2,3,4,5,6” and “—, | , J , 、 ,乙, 口” does not affect the substantial characteristics of this invention.

[Claim 8] A method and keyboard as claimed in Claim 1, in which one can also add into other Chinese character components or use more other numeric keys. For example, add component “王” on the numeric key 1, use numeric key “7” to represent “+”.

[Claim 9] A method as claimed in Claim 1, which can be used to encode and input both simplified and traditional Chinese characters in various character sets.

[Claim 10] A method as claimed in Claim 1, which can be also used as a way of sorting and searching Chinese characters and words and phrases. For example, one can make the numeric codes encoded by this method into an index of Chinese dictionary for searching characters.

[Claim 11] According to any one of proceeding Claims 1-10, the present invention of encoding Chinese characters and words and phrases can be used in any large, medium, small and mini sized computers, mobile phones, Chinese PDAs, as well as the systems for Chinese information processing and communication.